(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVLA-ION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM ABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Inquiry into he incident revealed that inspite of the est possible medical assistance provided the life of the said woman passenger unfortunately, could not be saved. She has reporteed to be a heart patient and ad undergone by-pass surgery.

Proposal to upgrade Surat Airport

7710. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA; SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to pgrade the Surat airstrip into an airport apable of handling domestic flights:

(b) if so, what are the details of the reject indicating also its cost and time rame for implementation; and

(c) at what stage the matter stands present?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIA-ION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM MBI AZAD): (a) to (c) The airport Surat belongs to State Government of Gujarat and is capable of handling Dor-ier/AVRO type of aircraft. Airports Authority of India has no plan to up-rade this airport.

Irappropriate accounting by Air India

7711. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Min ster of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOU RISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Air India's 1992-93 accounts did lot properly reflect the economic situa-tion;

(b) whether it is a fact that there was nappropriate accounting in Air India n. 1992-93:

(c) if so the names of the concerned uditors; and

(d) whether Government propose any nquiry into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD); (a) to (c) The Accounts of Air India for the period 1992-93 reflect the true and fair view of the state of Affairs of the company. The accounts have been examined by two firms of chartered accountants namely M/s. S. B. Billimoria and Co. and M/s. N. M. Ranji and Co. as examiners. The Principal Director of Commercial Audit and ex-offlice member, Audit Board II, Bombay has certified the Accounts.

(d) No, Sir.

Profite by Air India

7712. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India declared profits of nearly 333 crores in) 1992-93;

(b) whether these pofirts reflected the real situation;

(c) whether it is a fact that Air India has shown losses of 180 crores recently; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIA-TION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Audit of Air India accounts

7713. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIA-TION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Board of Air India recently at a meeting demanded a thorough audit of the accounts of Air Inda for the period 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) whether a massive fraud in the system of accounts was detected;

(c) whether issue will be enquired into by the CBI; and

(d) if. not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir. The minutes of the meeting do not contain any record of such discussion.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

False profit shown by Air India

7714. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA. Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state: (a) whether Government collaborated with Air India in 1992-93 to show false profits;

(b) whether any representative of Government was present on the Board of Air India in 1992-93; and

(c) whether any actioa has been taken against the representative of the Ministry for inefficient function-ins?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIA-TION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Steep decline in Air India's profits

7715. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep decline in the profits of Air India from 1992-93 to the present financial year-

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to enquire into this decline;

(d) the steps proposed to halt this decline; and

(e) whether Air India has any rea sons for the prompt state of affairs

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVI TION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULA NABI AZAD): (a), (b) and (e) Y Sir. The decline in profitability 1993-94 and 1994-95 as compared 1992-93 is due to:—

(i) impact of depreciation ar interest of the B 747-400 aircra acquired during 1993-94.

(ii) decline in yields by arour 10 per cent and decline in load fa tor from 64.6 per cent in 1992-93 59.6 per cent in 1993-94; and

(iii) impact of cancellation of s veral flights in the wake of plag outbreak.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Air India is taking steps to fa the competition and to improve ;
product, image ad on-time perfor ance to attract more passengers at increase the revenue; the number services will also be increased depen ing upon additional entitlements at traffic demand.

Formation of Aviation Security For

7716. SHRI N. THANGARAJ PA DIAN : Will the Mnister of CIV AVIATION AND TOURISM be please to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Aviati Security Force was to be formed per Anti-Hijacking Act, 1994;

(b) if so. what are the details the of; and

(c) by when it will start functic ing?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVI TON AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULA NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c). Anti-Hijas ing Act, 1982 as amended in 1994, dc not envisage setting up of Aviatii